

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

I. Amendments to the Specification

In the specification, paragraphs have been amended on pages 4 and 12 to change “polybutyl vinylal” to “polyvinyl butyral.” “Polybutyl vinylal” is a translational error. The amendment is supported by the original claims 7 and 9, specification page 11 line 34 to page 12 line 36, and specification page 15 line 33 to page 19 line 22, and the Examples.

II. Claim Status

No claims are requested to be canceled. No claims are being added.

Claims 1-2, and 11-12 are currently being amended.

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-12 are now pending in this application.

II. Office Action

The PTO rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. (Office Action, page 2.)

Applicants have amended the claim by changing it to “polyvinyl butyral.” “polybutyl vinylal” recited in claim 1 is a translation error. The basis for the amendment can be found in the original claims 7 and 9, specification page 11 line 34 to page 12 line 36, and specification page 15 line 33 to page 19 line 22, and the Examples.

Applicants have amended claim 2 to allow R^2 to be CH_3 only.

Applicants have amended claims 11-12 to change “ball paint pen” to “ball point pen” to correct the apparent typographic error.

Regarding the recitation of “polyvinyl butyral” in claims 4-5, 7, and 9-10, Applicants respectfully submit that the term is clear to one skilled in the art when read in the context of the claims themselves and in view of the specification.

In claim 1, the two requirements are not the same. In (a), it requires “a high polymerization degree polyvinyl butyral with a polymerization of 900 (theoretical molecular weight of 60,000) or more.” In (b), it requires a “polyvinyl butyral as a dispersant”

In claim 4, the composition must contain not only polyvinyl butyral with a polymerization degree of 900 or more as in case of (a) being satisfied, but also polyvinyl butyral with a polymerization degree of 900 or less. The use of polyvinyl butyral with a polymerization degree of 900 or more gives an advantage of withdrawing or collecting blobbing that occurs due to excessive ink during transfer by the internal cohesion force (Please see specification, page 12, lines 1-6). On the other hand, polyvinyl butyral with a polymerization degree of 900 or less is added as a pigment dispersant. The polyvinyl butyrals having two different polymerization degrees have different effects.

In claim 7, the average molecular weight of the polyvinyl butyral used in the case of (b) is further limited to from 10,000 to 30,000.

As such, one skilled in the art would understand the meaning of the recitations and the scope of the claims. Therefore claims 4 and 7 are not indefinite. In the same vein, claims 5 and 9-10 are not indefinite.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated,

otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date May 7, 2008

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